

## Alexandria Gazette.

SATURDAY EVENING, OCT. 17, 1896.

## FATAL STAGE REALISM.

Mishaps In Carrying Out Directions That Have Ended In Death.

Such a piece of realism on the stage as that which occurred in a London theater lately, where one actor in a duel scene inflicted through a mishap a mortal wound upon one of his stage comrades, is by no means infrequent. Accidents, fatal and serious, humorous and tragic, constantly occur in stageland, and many an actor can show scars received in the mimic strife. The traditions of the stage are full of serious and comic tragedies.

One such is said to have occurred at La Scala, Milan, in the presence of royalty itself. It was at the finale of a production of "Fra Diavolo," then the chief operative sensation. In the closing act the captured bandit chief is led up a rocky path on his way to prison. He turns to battle with his guards, when Lorenzo orders his troops to fire, and Fra Diavolo dies. On this particular night the picturesque bandit, who had always made a traditional fall, so that he would remain the central figure of the tableau on which the curtain descended, introduced what appeared to the audience some new business. He gave one short, despairing shriek and then fell forward from his elevation into the very midst of the chorus of soldiers and villagers.

When the members of the company ran to pick up the singer, he was dead. A bullet had pierced his heart. In the confusion one of the soldiers, a heartless youth and a recent addition to the chorus, quietly passed out of the theater. He was pursued and arrested two days later, when the romantic discovery was made that the young soldier was in fact a girl who had been in love with the tenor. They had quarreled some time before, and, unknown to him, the girl joined the chorus of La Scala, loaded the property gun with a deadly bullet and thus introduced some startling realism on the Italian stage.

If statistics of theatrical accidents were compiled, it would be curious to note the large number of mishaps which happen in the performance of "Romeo and Juliet." More than one well known actor bears on his face and body the marks and scars inflicted by rapiers in the quarrel scene in the famous tragedy. A few years ago at a performance of "Romeo and Juliet" in the city of Manchester the ending of the play was tragic indeed. The actors were amateurs. All were greatly excited, and the two representatives of Mercutio and Tybalt fought with an unhappy realism. A purely accidental thrust by Mercutio caused Tybalt to fall to the floor, and before the audience understood what was the matter the unfortunate Tybalt had expired. Fortunately for the Mercutio of the performance, a coroner's jury returned a verdict of "death by misadventure."

William Terriss once had a narrow escape from death in the representation of this tragedy. "I had a little experience," he says, "in the run of 'Romeo and Juliet' when produced by Miss Mary Anderson which taught me to beware of stage weapons. I was once playing Romeo to the Juliet of the late Adelaide Neilson at the Haymarket, when I equipped myself with a dagger sharp as a razor. At one of the dress rehearsals Miss Neilson noticed this weapon and earnestly entreated me to substitute a blunted weapon for it. I did so and thanked her for her suggestion. During the Lyceum run of 'Romeo and Juliet' I forgot her wise counsel, and the result was that I fell on my own dagger, which was so sharp that it pierced me in the side. Since then I have taken the lesson to heart."

Last summer one of our grandchildren was sick with a severe bowel trouble. Our doctor's remedies had failed, then we tried Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which gave very speedy relief. We regard it as the best medicine ever put on the market for bowel complaints.—Miss E. G. Gregory, Fredericktown, Mo. This certainly is the best medicine ever put on the market for cholera, summer complaint, colic and cholera infantum in children. I never fails to give prompt relief when used in reasonable time and the plain printed directions are followed. Many mothers have expressed their sincere gratitude for the cure it has effected. For sale by L. Stabler & Co., Druggists.

"For several months, I was troubled with a persistent humor on my head which gave me considerable annoyance, until it occurred to me to try Ayer's Hair Vigor. Before using one bottle, the humor was healed."—T. T. Adams, General Merchant, Turbeville, Va.

National Encampment Union Veteran Legion.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell, October 13 to 18, inclusive, round trip tickets to Fredericksburg, Richmond, Petersburg and Farmville, Va., and Gettysburg, Pa., at one fare, on account of the National Encampment, Union Veteran Legion, limited for return until October 25.

\$1.25—Washington to Baltimore and return—\$1.25.

Tickets will be sold via the Pennsylvania Railroad Saturday and Sunday, October 10th and 11th and will be valid for return passage until Monday, October 12th. Good on any train.

Another lot of Sweet, Orr & Co.'s celebrated OVERALLS and JACKETS, just received by

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Schedule Effective Oct. 1, 2003				
No. 37. Daily.	No. 35. Daily.	THROUGH SCHEDULE.	No. 36. Daily.	No. 34. Daily.
10 43pm	11 15am	Leave ..... Washington.....	Arrive 9 40pm	6 42am
11 06pm	11 38am	..... Alexandria.....	9 18pm	6 20am
1 55am	2 27pm	..... Charlottesville.....	5 50pm	3 24am
1 37am	4 09pm	..... Lynchburg.....	3 50pm	1 56am
5 40am	5 50pm	..... Danville.....	1 40pm	12 18P
6 57am	7 45pm	Arrive ..... Greensboro.....	Leave 12 40pm	10 46pm
9 55am	12 00P	..... Winston-Salem.....	7 15am	5 30pm
7 50pm	7 30am	..... Raleigh.....	5 05am	4 10pm
8 11am	9 17pm	..... Salisbury.....	10 20am	9 38pm
3 52pm	9 17pm	..... Asheville.....	10 20am	2 16pm
5 22pm	9 17pm	..... Hot Springs.....	12 53pm	12 53pm
7 40pm	9 17pm	..... Knoxville.....	Leave 8 20am	8 20am
11 59pm	9 17pm	..... Chattanooga.....	8 40am	4 30am
9 25am	10 40pm	..... Charlotte.....	8 50am	4 30pm
1 47am	10 40pm	..... Columbia.....	4 46pm	3 24pm
8 08am	10 40pm	..... Augusta.....	3 00am	2 00pm
5 46am	10 40pm	..... Savannah.....	10 16pm	.....
9 00am	10 40pm	..... (Central Time).....	5 40pm	.....
7 10pm	10 40pm	..... Jacksonville.....	7 04pm	.....
3 55pm	5 20am	..... Tampa.....	12 15am	12 00P
10 20pm	12 01pm	..... Atlanta.....	2 55pm	5 55am
7 25am	10 00pm	..... (Central Time).....	5 20am	9 15pm
3 35am	10 25pm	Arrive ..... Birmingham.....	Leave 7 50pm	7 50pm
		..... (Central Time).....		
		..... Memphis.....		
		..... (Central Time).....		
		Arrive ..... New Orleans.....	Leave 7 50pm	7 50pm
		..... (Central Time).....		